

Provo: Glimpses From Pages of Hist

Here is a chronology of happenings in Provo since its founding in 1849. The list isn't all-inclusive, of course; nor does it even presume to include every monumental happening in Provo's history.

1849 — At a council meeting March 10 in Great Salt Lake, directed by Brigham Young, it was decided to send 30 men to Utah Valley to begin colonization. The first colony arrived at the Provo (Timpanogos) River April 1 and two days later began building Fort Utah south of the river near the present Geneva Road.

1850 — The General Assembly of the Provisional State of Deseret passed an act Jan. 31 creating six counties — Great Salt Lake, Weber, Utah, Tooele, Sanpete, and Little Salt Lake. Provo was named county seat of Utah County. On Feb. 8-9, Mormon militiamen defeated a force of Indians, fortified in the river bottoms area, in a two-day battle. That spring, the settlers built a new fort at what is now Sowiette (North) Park at Fifth North and Fifth West, with a schoolhouse in the center. The site of the first fort had proved cold and damp.

1851 — On Feb. 6, the General Assembly of Deseret granted Provo a charter modeled after that of Nauvoo, Ill. which provided for a city council consisting of a mayor, four aldermen, and nine councilors. The first city council was elected in April with Ellis Eames as mayor.

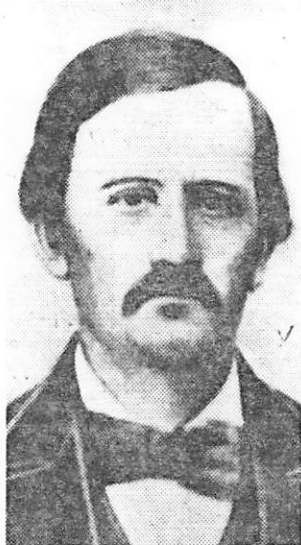
1852 — The schoolhouse was moved out of the fort and enlarged. On Aug. 1, five ecclesiastical wards were organized with the following bishops: First Ward, Jonathan O. Duke; Second, James Bird; Third, Edward Clark; Fourth, William M. Wall; and Fifth, William Fausett.

Walker War

1853 — The so-called Walker War began, with intermittent White-Indian strife that lasted into 1855.

1855 — By action of the Territorial Legislature, the Provo Road Company was incorporated to build a road through Provo Canyon. A grasshopper scourge, which had started in 1854, reached disastrous proportions across the state. A two-story abode "seminary" was built on the present site of the Third Ward Chapel.

1856 — Ground was broken for the Provo Meeting House (Old Tabernacle). A pioneer-era famine hit the valley and state as a result of the grasshopper infestation of 1855 and other



FIRST MAYOR — Ellis Eames, elected Provo's first mayor in 1851.

destructive elements of nature.

1857 — Military districts were created to deal with the approach of Johnston's Army, ordered to Utah by President James Buchanan to deal with an alleged "Mormon rebellion" reported by federally appointed judges to Utah.

1858 — In springtime, a southward migration called "the Move," took place, with families in the northern settlements moving into Provo and Utah Valley. This was a Mormon strategem to abandon resistance to the federal troops, leaving only enough men to fire the houses and crops in the event the soldiers proved unalterably hostile. A historian estimated up to 30,000 crowded the valley, most of the visitors from Salt Lake and Weber Counties.

Camp Floyd

The "Utah Expedition" troops had wintered near Fort Bridger. In the spring, Col. Thomas L. Kane, an old friend of the Mormons, intervened and persuaded Alfred Cumming, the new governor sent to succeed Brigham Young, to go to Great Salt Lake to ascertain for himself if there was a rebellion. The governor arrived April 12 during the "move." Meantime, a revulsion of feeling in the East induced the government to send peace commissioners to Utah. Negotiations plus the diplomatic efforts of Gov. Cumming resulted in a settlement of the issue. In mid-June the Army broke camp and marched through Salt Lake Valley. Crossing the Jordan, the troops established Camp Floyd in Cedar Valley west of Utah Lake. Brigham Young gave the sign on June 30 and the Saints returned to their homes.

1859 — A controversy centered

on action by Judge John Cradlebaugh, a judicial appointee to the Territory, to station federal troops in Provo as a "walking calaboose" while holding court here. The action stirred controversy and brought opposition from Gov. Cumming and ultimately ended with the attorney general of the United States backing the governor.

1860 — Provo's population was 2030; Ogden's, 1463. Secretary of War John B. Floyd issued an order reducing the size of the garrison at Camp Floyd.

1861 — The last of the army force departed Camp Floyd, which had been rechristened Fort Crittenden. At a public sale, \$4 million of government property was sold to Utahns for approximately \$100,000.

New Charter

1864 — Provo City received a new charter which vested municipal government in a council consisting of a mayor, three aldermen from separate wards, and five councilors, with authority to expand as appropriate.

1865 — The Black Hawk War broke out, extending mainly into the counties to the south. A treaty was signed at a council at Spanish Fork under a congressional act of 1864 providing for extinguishing Indian titles to agricultural and mineral lands in Utah. Under the terms, the Indians were to move to Uintah Valley within a year in return for various government concessions.

1866 — Taylor Brothers' department store was founded. The first kiln of brick in Provo was made by Philander Colton.

1867 — A new Utah County Courthouse was completed at about 157 N. 100 W. at a cost of \$5092. A. Gardner took a contract to bridge Provo River for \$7000. The Provo Meeting House was dedicated Aug. 24 - 25 with Brigham Young in charge and John Taylor giving the dedicatory prayer. The telegraph came to Provo through the Deseret Telegraph Company.

1868 — Improvements were at a high level. In autumn a Salt Lake newspaper reported that "Provo ranks as the second city, in point of population, in the Territory. (Note: Ogden surged ahead of Provo in population after the transcontinental railroad linkup in 1869 put that city on the railroad map.)

1869 — The Timpanogos Manufacturing Company (later known as the Provo Woolen Mills) was organized June 1 with a million dollars capital. Warren N. Dusenberry, already an experienced Provo teacher, opened a school in the Kinsey Building and later expanded to

the Lewis Hall at Third West and Center. Upon recommendation of Robert L. Campbell, territorial schools superintendent, this became the Timpanogos Branch of the University of Deseret and forerunner to the Brigham Young Academy.

New Courthouse

1870 — Provo's population reached 2384; Ogden's, 3127. Bids were asked for a new county courthouse on the present county block, immediate predecessor to the present County Building. The cornerstone was laid May 28 for the Provo Woolen Mills building.

1871 — The Utah Southern Railroad announced it would come through Provo.

1872 — Founding of a Masonic Lodge in Provo was approved. The first yarn for the market was spun at the woolen mills.

1873 — Publication of the Provo Daily Times, great-ancestor to The Daily Herald, began Aug. 1. The Methodist Episcopal Church became the first of the mission churches to establish here. The first train of the Utah Southern reached Provo Nov. 25. The first cloth from the woolen mills was manufactured in June.

1874 — Provo church leaders voted in April to live within the United Order, but the experiment never got off the ground here.

1875 — Brigham Young Academy was founded Oct. 16, 1875, encompassing the Timpanogos Branch of the Deseret University. In December, Warren N. Dusenberry was named principal of the academy.

1876 — Karl G. Maeser was chosen principal of B.Y. Academy. Mr. Dusenberry had begun practice of law and had tendered his resignation in April.

1878 — Gravel sidewalks were introduced. (Some asphalt

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sidewalk paving was to come in 1898, with concrete walks introduced here in 1901.)

1880 — Provo was selected by the Legislature as site for the Territorial Insane Asylum, to be ready for occupancy in 1885.

(continued on Page 5C)

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Electronics

It's Opening Up New Horizons Of Bright, Shining Potential

We're looking to the future with anticipation

... knowing that we are capable of going for-

THE SIGNS of GOOD TASTE



*People at play in
Utah County Enjoy
the Refreshing Quality*